CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An extension for releasing pressurized contents of a canister, comprising:

a main body having an outer peripheral surface, a top end, a bottom end, and an aperture formed in said top end, said bottom end having an opening adapted for mounting said main body onto the canister;

a depressible actuator tab disposed across the aperture and hingedly secured to said main body, said actuator tab having a valve stem receiving orifice for receiving a valve stem disposed on the canister when said extension is mounted onto the container and a discharge channel in fluid communication with the valve stem for delivering the pressurized contents of the container through said extension;

a threaded projection extending outward from the outer peripheral surface of said main body, the projection having a discharge orifice disposed along the end of the projection, said threaded projection being adapted to receive a threaded connector from a conventional discharge hose; and

an actuator hinge for securing said actuator tab to said main body, said actuator hinge allowing said actuator tab to

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

move freely from an unactuated position to a depressed actuated position;

whereby said actuator tab, when depressed, is adapted for contacting the valve stem of the canister to release the pressurized contents of the canister, the contents being delivered through the discharge channel and out of the discharge orifice on said projection.

2. The extension for releasing the pressurized contents of a canister according to claim 1, further comprising an actuator cap lid secured to said actuator cap.

3. The extension for releasing the pressurized contents of a canister according to claim 2, further comprising a hinge attaching said actuator cap lid to said actuator cap.

4. The extension for releasing the pressurized contents of a canister according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of finger grooves disposed on a top surface of said actuator tab for providing a frictional surface.

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

5. The extension for releasing the pressurized contents of a canister according to claim 1, further comprising an integrated locking mechanism for securing said actuator tab in the depressed actuated position, said locking mechanism comprising a lock hook integrally formed in said main body and an engaging hook disposed along a bottom surface of said actuator tab.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

6. A refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing pressurized contents of the canister, comprising:

a housing having a generally cylindrical main body with a top surface, an opening in said top surface and a upstanding rim surrounding said opening;

a housing cover sealably secured to said upstanding rim to seal said opening;

a valve stem disposed through the center of said housing cover having a top portion and a bottom portion, said top portion projecting upward from said housing cover;

an actuator cap having an outer peripheral surface, a top end, a bottom end, and an aperture formed in said top end, said bottom end having an opening adapted for mounting said main body onto said canister;

a depressible actuator tab disposed across said aperture and hingedly secured to said actuator cap, said actuator tab having a valve stem receiving orifice for receiving said valve stem when said extension is mounted onto said canister and a discharge channel in fluid communication with said valve stem for delivering the pressurized contents of said canister through said extension;

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

a threaded projection extending outward from said outer peripheral surface having a discharge orifice disposed along the end of the projection; and

an actuator hinge for securing said actuator tab to said main body, said actuator hinge allowing said actuator tab to move freely from an unactuated position to a depressed actuated position;

whereby said actuator tab, when depressed, contacts the valve stem of the canister to release the pressurized contents of the canister, the contents being delivered through the discharge channel and out of the discharge orifice on said projection.

7. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 6, further comprising a discharge member secured to said threaded projection, wherein said discharge member delivers the contents of said canister to a vehicle air conditioning unit.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

8. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 7, wherein said discharge member is a refrigerant discharge hose comprising an elongate tubular body having a receiving end, a discharge end, a threaded fitting for engaging said threaded projection disposed on said receiving end, and a disconnect coupler fitting for engaging a vehicle air conditioning unit disposed on said discharge end.

9. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to 8, wherein said discharge member is integrally formed to said main body.

10. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 8, wherein said discharge member is adapted to be removed from said threaded projection.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

11. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 6, further comprising an actuator cap lid secured to the said actuator cap.

12. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 12, wherein said actuator cap lid is secured to said actuator cap by a hinge.

13. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 6, further comprising a plurality of finger grooves disposed on a top surface of said actuator tab for providing a frictional surface.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

14. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 6, further comprising an integrated locking mechanism for securing said actuator tab in the depressed actuated position, said locking mechanism comprising a lock hook integrally formed in said main body and an engaging hook disposed along a bottom surface of said actuator tab.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

15. A vehicle refrigerant canister with an extension for delivering pressurized contents of the canister to an air conditioning unit of a vehicle, comprising:

a housing having a generally cylindrical main body with a top surface, an opening in said top surface and a upstanding rim surrounding said opening;

a housing cover sealably secured to said upstanding rim to seal said opening;

a valve stem disposed through the center of said housing cover having a top portion and a bottom portion, said top portion projecting upward from said housing cover;

an actuator cap having an outer peripheral surface, a top end, a bottom end, and an aperture formed in said top end, said bottom end having an opening adapted for mounting said main body onto said canister;

a depressible actuator tab disposed across said aperture and hingedly secured to said actuator cap, said actuator tab having a valve stem receiving orifice for receiving said valve stem when said extension is mounted onto said canister and a discharge channel in fluid communication with said valve stem

LITMAN LAW OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

for delivering the pressurized contents of said canister through said extension;

a threaded projection extending outward from said outer peripheral surface having a discharge orifice disposed along the end of the projection;

an actuator hinge for securing said actuator tab to said main body, said actuator hinge allowing said actuator tab to move freely from an unactuated position to a depressed actuated position; and

a refrigerant charging hose secured to said threaded projection for delivering the released contents of said canister to the air conditioning unit of the vehicle, said charging hose having an engaging end, a discharge end, a threaded fitting disposed on said engaging end for engaging said threaded projection and a disconnect fitting disposed on said discharge end for engaging the air conditioning unit of the vehicle;

whereby said actuator tab, when depressed, contacts the valve stem of the container to release the pressurized contents of the container, the contents being delivered through the discharge channel and out of the discharge orifice on said projection into said charging hose to be delivered to the vehicle air conditioning unit.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

16. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to 15, wherein said charging hose is integrally formed to said main body.

17. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 15, wherein said charging hose is adapted to be removed from said threaded projection.

18. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 15, further comprising an actuator cap lid secured to the said actuator cap.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000

19. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 15, wherein said actuator cap lid is secured to said actuator cap by a hinge.

20. The refrigerant canister with an extension for releasing the pressurized contents of the canister according to claim 15, further comprising an integrated locking mechanism for securing said actuator tab in the depressed actuated position, said locking mechanism comprising a lock hook integrally formed in said main body and an engaging hook disposed along a bottom surface of said actuator tab.

LITMAN LAW
OFFICES, LTD.
P.O. BOX 15035
ARLINGTON, VA 22215
(703) 486-1000